

REMARKS

In this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants amend claims 1, 2, 9, and 17, in response to the Examiner's Election of Species Requirement, and add new claims 21 and 22 to protect additional aspects related to the invention.

Furthermore, in the Election of Species Requirement, mailed December 17, 2004, the Examiner required election under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between two species. The Examiner also required election of one of two subspecies to be combined with the elected species.

In response, Applicants elect to prosecute Species 1, characterized by the Examiner as being shown in "Figures 1A-F and 2A-B," and submit that claims 1-16, 21, and 22 are readable thereon. Applicants further elect to prosecute Subspecies II, characterized by the Examiner as being shown in "Figure 6B," and submit that claims 17 and 20 are readable thereon.

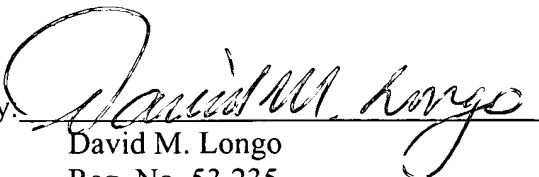
Applicants respectfully request the Examiner promptly consider and allow this application.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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